



## News from **Councilmember Todd Gloria**

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### City of San Diego ▪ District Three

Friends,

Last week, San Diego City Council approved the budget for Fiscal Year 2013 by a vote of 7-1. As the Chairman of the Budget and Finance Committee, I applaud my colleagues, Mayor Jerry Sanders, and Independent Budget Analyst Andrea Tevlin for their collaboration on the balanced \$1.15 billion General Fund budget that restores critical services and remains fiscally responsible.

The balanced budget for Fiscal Year 2013 demonstrates the tremendous progress made over the past several years through reforms done in partnership with our employees. For the first time in many years, this budget includes the restoration of core services, which reflects the priorities of San Diegans.

I am proud that the City Council was active throughout the development of the budget. Among the items I successfully championed for inclusion:

- Increasing the size of the Police Academy
- Adding a second Fire Academy
- Funding operations at the Neil Good Day Center
- Retaining the Graffiti Removal Team
- Aggressively addressing infrastructure deficits
- Adding three more hours to branch library schedules, bringing all branches from 41-44 weekly hours, and restoring five Saturday hours at the Central Library
- Increasing funds for Community Plan Updates
- Increasing cash funding of deferred capital projects by \$8.3 million for a total of \$129.1 million for FY 13 operations and maintenance
- Adding funds to the appropriated reserves for urban forestry efforts

Notably, even with the continuation and restoration of these services, the City of San Diego is living well within our means.

The budget includes increased estimates for both transient occupancy tax and sales tax base, based on collections to date this current year. Further, the budget reduces property tax revenue projections to ensure fiscal responsibility. City reserve funds remain at higher than required levels, a key indicator that has led to improved credit ratings for San Diego.

#### **City Employees Continue to Be Part of the Solution with New Contracts**

On Monday, the City Council approved the memoranda of understanding with our employee organizations. These agreements again demonstrate our employees' shared dedication to the City's fiscal strength. For most of the last decade, our employees have agreed to no pay raises. In the same timeframe, they have agreed to increased personal contributions to their benefits and retirements. These result in lower take home pay for our workers, but they have placed the City's long term financial health and services to taxpayers above their personal benefit. I ask

you to recognize the sacrifices and selflessness of our City employees and thank them for their continued dedication.

### **Local Groups Receive City Funds**

As part of next year's budget, I recommended funds be allocated to several worthy organizations to support their arts and culture-related efforts.

- Public Art Fund received \$10,000 to augment the previously identified \$50,000 for care and conservation of City-owned art as well as for preparation of Balboa Park artwork conservation for the 2015 centennial celebration.
- Prophet World Beat Center was allocated \$4,000 for cultural programming in Balboa Park.
- I allocated \$4,000 to the Japanese Friendship Garden for its expansion project.
- San Diego Art Link received \$3,500 for its Art Around Adams event.
- South Park Business Group was allocated \$2,500 for the 2013 South Park Old House Fair.
- I provided \$2,500 to Victoria House Corporation for the 2012 North Park Toyland Parade.
- The Hillcrest Business Improvement Association received \$2,500 for the 2012 Hillcrest Hoedown and Fall Festival.
- The San Diego Asian Film Foundation was allocated \$2,500 for Youth Day and film festival access.
- The Veterans Museum and Memorial Center will benefit from \$2,500 for its exhibit renovation project and Veterans Day.

### **A Personal Budget Boost: Cheaper Parking in Uptown**

I am happy to spread the word that the Uptown Community Parking District has lowered some of its parking meter rates in the neighborhood.

Three areas around Normal Street have recently been approved and a meter rate reduction has been completed in the following blocks:

3900 Normal Street (Normal Street Median)

New rates are 50 cents/hour, down from \$1.25/hour

1600 University Avenue (north and south sides of the street)

1200 University Avenue (south side of the street from Vermont to Richmond)

New rates are 75 cents/hour, down from \$1.25/hour

I appreciate the leadership of the Uptown Community Parking District and its creative and proactive approach to managing parking in the neighborhood. More of their ongoing efforts will be included in my next newsletter.

### **Traffic Circulation Study Open House**

UC San Diego Health System is also working to improve our neighborhood and will hold its third Traffic Circulation Study Open House on June 27 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. at the Hillcrest Medical Center's Auditorium. A traffic consultant will be providing a detailed analysis of the three circulation alternatives, and then UC San Diego Health System staff will be discussing the work

they have done to respond to the community's concerns about parking. The majority of the time will be an open forum for the community to weigh in on the alternatives and any other related issues.

To RSVP or to send any additional comments, please contact Aaron Byzak, Director of Government and Community Affairs, [abyzak@ucsd.edu](mailto:abyzak@ucsd.edu) or 619-543-3873. When you RSVP, share whether or not you will need a parking space.

### **Normal Heights Project Honored**

The Madison & Cherokee Avenues Traffic Calming Project was recently awarded the 2012 Complete Streets Award by the San Diego Section American Planning Association. Congratulations to the City staff who made the project happen and to the community for benefiting from the great improvements.

### **Learn to Save a Life on June 30**

Neighborhood Beat  
Saturday, June 30, 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.  
Joyce Beers Community Center  
3900 Vermont Street

In partnership with Councilmember Marti Emerald and Rural/Metro Ambulance, I invite you to Neighborhood Beat, a citywide community CPR training program. This FREE event will teach you how to perform CPR and how to use an Automatic External Defibrillator (AED).

Trainings will begin promptly at 9:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. Please arrive at least 10 minutes prior to the start time.

RSVP to my office, [ToddGloria@sandiego.gov](mailto:ToddGloria@sandiego.gov) or 619-236-6633.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Todd", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Todd

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<http://www.sandiego.gov/citycouncil/cd3>.